

Journal - Office of Legislative Counsel
Wednesday - 26 April 1972

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5. (Secret - JMM) Met with Representative Robert L. F. Sikes, of the House Appropriations Committee, whom I briefed on latest developments regarding Soviet strategic aircraft and ICBMs. I reminded him of our earlier invitations for him to visit Headquarters and get briefed on our budget, personnel, etc., noting the Director was particularly concerned that he should be up to date on these matters in view of the allegations on the Hill that our oversight Subcommittees are not doing their job. Mr. Sikes was apologetic for not responding to our invitation sooner and said as soon as his present hearings on military construction were completed he would be in touch with us.

6. (Confidential - JMM) In the absence of Carl Marcy, discussed with Art Kuhl, Senate Foreign Relations Committee staff, Chairman Fulbright's letter to the Director regarding possible CIA information on Ambassador Watson's conduct on a PanAm flight from Paris. Kuhl said that Tom Dine, of Senator Church's staff, had "gotten them into this" and had promised to produce their CIA source. Having failed to do so, Kuhl said he and Marcy were quite disgusted and felt that they had been "had." He went on to say that the leak of the Director's reply to Fulbright was undoubtedly Dine's work, since he was sure it didn't come from the Committee staff and Fulbright had sent a copy of the Director's reply to Church.

7. (Confidential - JMM) Met with Senator William Spong and reviewed our problems with the two amendments to the State Department Authorization bill. He said he would try to be helpful but was sure we could not win a floor fight on the issue of dissemination of information abroad.

8. (Confidential - JMM) Discussed the above problem with John Goldsmith, Senate Armed Services Committee staff, who shared Senator Spong's view regarding our prospects in the event that the issue reached the floor.

9. (Internal Use Only - JGO) Received a call from Miss Judy Strachan, in the office of Representative Frank Bow (R., Ohio), who asked for information concerning the qualifications for employment with INTERPOL. After checking with CI Staff, I gave Miss Strachan the full name and address plus a short description of INTERPOL and the name of an individual at Treasury Department should Representative Bow desire any further information.

SECRET

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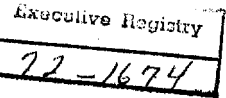
CARL MARCY, CHIEF OF STAFF
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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

March 22, 1972




Mr. Richard Helms
Director
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, D. C.

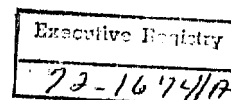
Dear Mr. Helms:

The Committee on Foreign Relations has received information indicating that publicity resulting from Ambassador Watson's recent conduct has caused concern among Chinese officials as to the seriousness with which the United States is entering into negotiations in Paris with the People's Republic of China.

The Committee would appreciate receiving urgently the information which your agency has on this subject.

Sincerely yours,


J. W. Fulbright
Chairman



24 March 1972

The Honorable J. W. Fulbright, Chairman
Senate Foreign Relations Committee
United States Senate
Washington, D. C. 20510

My dear Mr. Chairman:

Your letter of March 22 reached me today, and I am hastening to reply since it requests certain information "urgently".

Secretary Rogers informed me late on March 22 that Senator Church had received from a "CIA agent" information along the lines described in the first paragraph of your letter. He asked me to look into the matter. I have done so. We can find no information in this Agency to support the assertion. In fact, there has been no reporting of any PRC reaction to the publicity on Ambassador Watson's conduct. Further, we have not been able to identify the alleged "CIA agent" to whom Senator Church refers. If we could be provided with a name, we would be glad to pursue the matter further.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) Richard Helms
Richard Helms
Director

cc: Mr. Maury w/basic
ER

The Washington Merry-Go-Round

THE WASHINGTON POST Monday, April 17, 1973 B13

Chinese Wonder About Envoy Watson

By Jack Anderson

A confidential Senate memorandum, citing a source inside the Central Intelligence Agency, reports that the Red Chinese are "wondering" about American Ambassador Arthur Watson.

He is the International Business Machine's heir and big Republican contributor whom President Nixon has put in charge of exploring diplomatic relations with the Chinese in Paris. We reported that he had become gloriously drunk on at least two trans-Atlantic flights. On the plane that brought him to Washington to confer with the President about his sensitive new assignment, Watson tried to stuff money down the blouses of stewardesses. And on an earlier flight he petulantly pelted a stewardess with grapes from the fruit basket after she turned down his invitation to become a mistress for his teen-age son.

Such drunken conduct offends the Chinese and could jeopardize the Chinese-American negotiations in Paris. For in the Chinese culture, anyone who becomes drunk in public

would be ashamed to associate again with his former friends.

The confidential memo, written by Senate aide Tom Dine to Senator Frank Church (D-Idaho) declares: "From people who know Watson at IBM and those who have dealt with him in France, no one says he can handle the important, sensitive and delicate job that the President has now placed in his less than steady hands."

Dine urges the Senate Foreign Relations Committee to phone foreign policy adviser Henry Kissinger and urge him to encourage the President to "bring Watson home swiftly and send a very top man in his place."

Explains the Senate aide: "A CIA source in contact with the Chinese delegation at the United Nations and with others who are in contact with the Chinese in Paris, talked with me about the charges that Jack Anderson has made against Ambassador Watson."

'Well-Connected'

"This source, whom I have checked out and found well-connected and straight, believes the Senate Foreign Relations Committee or you per-

sonally ought to do something Watson relieved from his position swiftly and effectively to have them. The charges are correct; more important, the Chinese are wondering what this all means.

"Several Chinese diplomats have approached our people in Henry Kissinger and urge him New York and in Paris wanting to know what Watson's behavior means. If Watson is not very smart, if he is a drunkard, and if he is licentious, too, then are the Chinese being used in the negotiations in Paris? ...

"While President Nixon was in China, he found negotiating with Chou En-lai and others a most grueling experience. Each detail is discussed and only the top man discusses them.

"For instance, in Paris, the Chinese will not deal with anyone but the ambassador. Our negotiator, therefore, must be persistent, tough, of sound mind, highly respected and show physical endurance as well."

Instead of removing Watson from the delicate negotiations, however, the Nixon administration has decided to cover up

his inadequacies. CIA Director Richard Helms wrote a hasty, private letter to the Senate Foreign Relations Committee insisting "We can find no information in this agency" to support Dine's claims.

"In fact," added Helms, "there has been no report of any PRC (Chinese Communist) reaction to the publicity on Ambassador Watson's conduct."

Watson himself wrote letters of apology for his "rude" conduct on the PanAm flight to Washington. Finally, Secretary of State Bill Rogers, the nicest guy in Washington, used his amiable relations on Capitol Hill to persuade both the Senate and House to call off their investigations of Watson.

Footnote: Members of the PanAm flight crew, who were questioned privately on Capitol Hill about the Watson incidents, completely confirmed our charges. State Department aides Robert Aylmer and Frank Dempsey, who picked up Watson at the airport, also wrote a confidential report saying he was "heavily intoxicated."

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